

REMARKS:

- 1) This Second Preliminary Amendment introduces new claims 13 to 23, which are based on a direct translation of the revised PCT International claims 1 to 11 that were submitted to the I.P.E.A. on November 17, 2004 and that are annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report, except that the present new US claims 13 to 23 avoid multiple dependencies.
- 2) The International Preliminary Examination Report found that the revised PCT claims 1 to 11 (on which the new US claims 13 to 23 are based) satisfy all criteria for patentability (novelty, non-obviousness, and industrial applicability).
- 3) Claims 13 to 23 are the claims to be examined. Favorable consideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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WFF:hc/he/4889/PCT
Enclosures: postcard

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